

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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ALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
PRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

- 25X1 1. An artillery barracks, 300 x 500 meters in size, is located in the center of Berkovitsa. The barracks lie at the foot of the Stara Planina Range and are surrounded on three sides by houses.
2. The barracks are composed of the following buildings:
- One guardhouse at the main entrance;
 - One 3-story headquarters;
 - Two 3-story barracks for enlisted personnel;
 - Two additional 3-story barracks, with "cultural halls" and school rooms on the ground floor, and living quarters above;
 - One large garage and depot;
 - One stable for horses; and
 - One kitchen and food storehouse.
3. At present, the barracks are occupied by an artillery regiment, Podelenie 1244-A, strength between 800-900 men. In early October 1952, the regiment received 260 recruits from the 1931 class, and on 1 December 1952, an unidentified number of recruits were transferred to the artillery regiment in Varna. The regiment, for the most part, is not motorized.

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4. The artillery regiment is commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Ivan PERUCHIK-DIMITROV, about 46, and has a regimental staff of approximately 70-75 men (probably including the enlisted strength of the headquarters company).
5. Units in the regiment, with figures based on a peace-time basis, are organized as follows:

a. A horse-drawn artillery battalion, composed of:

- (1) A commanding officer;
- (2) A staff, strength approximately 30 men (presumably including the headquarters battery);
- (3) The 1 Battery, strength 80 men, commanded by Captain Ivan LAMBOV;
- (4) The 2 Battery, strength 80 men, commanded by First Lieutenant KARLOV; and
- (5) The 3 Battery, strength 83 men, commanding officer unknown.

The armament of this battalion includes twelve 76.2 mm. field guns, four light machine guns, 200 rifles, 25 submachine guns, fifteen 7.62 mm. pistols, 15 antitank "Panzerfaust" grenades, and 200 hand grenades.

b. A mountain artillery battalion, composed of:

- (1) A commanding officer;
- (2) A staff, strength 42 men;
- (3) The 4 Battery, strength 90 men;
- (4) The 5 Battery, strength 90 men;
- (5) The 6 Battery, strength 90 men; and
- (6) The Survey Battery, strength 60 men.

c. A battery in 1 Battalion, composed of:

- (1) A battery commander;
- (2) A battery staff;
- (3) A staff train: composed of six scouts, a 2-man survey group, a 5-man observation group, a 10-man telegraph and radio group, and auxiliary personnel of five to six men;
- (4) A combat group: composed of 1, 2, 3, and 4 gun sections; each piece is served by seven men, excluding ammunition carriers; and
- (5) A combat train: 10-11 men.

6. Staff personnel of the regiment are armed with pistols and submachine guns. The 2 Battalion is equipped with old Bulgarian howitzers which are transported in four pieces by mules. In the autumn of 1953, the 2 Battalion will allegedly be reorganized and armed with modern field guns.
7. At present, units are not equipped with gas masks. Approximately one-fourth of the uniforms are new, with black facings. There are 145-150 horses and 45-50 mules. In October 1952, all recruits were formed into a battalion for basic infantry training, and in November 1952, special artillery training was started in the following subjects: service of guns, survey, radio and telegraph, riding, and draft-horse riding groups.

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